

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method of improving water treatment composition for the long term improvement of the water quality of biological maintenance systems for the long term, comprising adding a water treatment composition to the systems, said composition comprising:

- a) at least one easily or sparingly soluble  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{TiO}^{2+}$  or  $\text{ZrO}^{2+}$  salt of an organic carboxylic acid;
- b) at least one water-soluble N-free, biologically decomposable organic compound;
- c) at least one soluble alkali metal salt of an organic carboxylic acid and
- d) a  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  or  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  salt or a mixture of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  salts of an organic carboxylic acid; and
- e) trace elements and vitamins.

12. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 11 comprising:

- a) an a salt selected from the group consisting of an acetate, formate, tartrate, citrate, and a mixture thereof;
- b) at least one carboxylic acid, an alcohol, a sugar, or a mixture thereof;
- c) an alkali metal salt of citric, acetic, lactic, tartaric, formic or malic acid;
- d) a  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  or  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  salt or a mixture of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  salts of organic carboxylic acids; and
- e) trace elements and vitamins.

13. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 11, wherein component a) further comprises an organic carboxylic acid.

14. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 11, wherein component e) are water-soluble vitamins of the B series.

15. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 11, wherein component a) comprises aluminum citrate, iron citrate or a mixture thereof.

16. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 11, wherein component b) comprises acetic, citric, tartaric, lactic acid, glycerol, sorbitol, ethanol, a pentose, a hexose, a saccharose, or a mixture thereof.

17. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 16 wherein component b) is a combination of citric acid, tartaric acid and saccharose.

18. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 11, wherein component c) is a sodium salt of citric or tartaric acid, or a mixture thereof.

19. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 11, wherein component d) comprises magnesium citrate or tartrate, or a mixture thereof.

20. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 19, further comprising calcium citrate or tartrate, or a mixture thereof.

21. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 11 wherein the trace elements are selected from the group consisting of iron, boric acid, bromide, iodide, lithium, tin, manganese, zinc, nickel, copper, vanadium, molybdenum, cobalt, and a mixture thereof.

22. (Currently Amended) The method composition according to claim 11, wherein the vitamins are selected from the group consisting of vitamin B1, B2, B6, B12, nicotinic acid amide, panthenol, biotin and a mixture thereof.

23. (Currently Amended) A water treatment composition for the long term improvement of the water quality of biological maintenance systems, comprising the following, based on the concentration in the maintenance system:

- a) 0.5 - 50 mg of at least one easily or sparingly soluble  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{TiO}^{2+}$  or  $\text{ZrO}^{2+}$  salt of an organic carboxylic acid;
- b) 0.5 - 100 mg of one or more organic compounds selected from citric acid, saccharose, tartaric acid, and a mixture thereof;
- c) 0.018 - 1.8 mmol of an alkali metal salt;
- d) 0.0018 - 0.36 mmol of magnesium salt of an organic carboxylic acid; and
- e) 1 - 100  $\mu\text{g}$  iron;
  - 0.5 - 50  $\mu\text{g}$  boric acid;
  - 0.1 - 100  $\mu\text{g}$  bromide;
  - 0.01 - 100  $\mu\text{g}$  iodide;
  - 1 - 200 ng lithium;
  - 1 - 200 ng tin;
  - 0.1 - 100  $\mu\text{g}$  manganese;
  - 0.1 - 100  $\mu\text{g}$  zinc;
  - 0.01 - 20  $\mu\text{g}$  nickel;
  - 0.01 - 20  $\mu\text{g}$  copper;
  - 1 - 500 ng vanadium;
  - 1 - 500 ng molybdenum;
  - 0.1 - 50 ng cobalt;
  - 0.1 - 100  $\mu\text{g}$  vitamin B1;
  - 0.05 - 50  $\mu\text{g}$  vitamin B2;
  - 0.01 - 30  $\mu\text{g}$  vitamin B6;
  - 0.05 - 50 ng vitamin B12;

0.1 - 50 µg nicotinic acid amide;  
0.1 - 100 µg panthenol; and  
0.01 - 10 µg biotin.

24. (Currently Amended) A water treatment composition for the long term improvement of the water quality of biological maintenance systems, comprising the following, based on the concentration in the maintenance system:

- a) 0.5 - 10 mg of at least one easily or sparingly soluble Al<sup>3+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup>, TiO<sup>2+</sup> or ZrO<sup>2+</sup> salt of an organic carboxylic acid;
- b) 0.5 - 50 mg of one or more organic compounds selected from citric acid, saccharose, tartaric acid, and a mixture thereof;
- c) 0.036 - 0.36 mmol of an alkali metal salt;
- d) 0.018 - 0.18 mmol of magnesium salt of an organic carboxylic acid; and
- e) 2 - 20 µg iron;
  - 0.5 - 10 µg boric acid;
  - 0.1 - 5 µg bromide;
  - 0.1 - 10 µg iodide;
  - 5 - 100 ng lithium;
  - 5 - 100 ng tin;
  - 0.2 - 20 µg manganese;
  - 0.1 - 10 µg zinc;
  - 0.05 - 5 µg nickel;
  - 0.05 - 5 µg copper;
  - 5 - 100 ng vanadium;
  - 5 - 100 ng molybdenum;
  - 0.5 - 20 ng cobalt;
  - 0.1 - 50 µg vitamin B1;
  - 0.05 - 10 µg vitamin B2;
  - 0.05 - 10 µg vitamin B6;
  - 0.1 - 10 ng vitamin B12;

0.1 - 20 µg nicotinic acid amide;  
0.1 - 10 µg panthenol; and  
0.01 - 1 µg biotin.

25. (New) A water treatment composition for the long-term improvement of the water quality of biological maintenance systems, comprising:

- a) at least one easily or sparingly soluble Al<sup>3+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup>, TiO<sup>2+</sup> or ZrO<sup>2+</sup> salt of an organic carboxylic acid;
- b) a combination of citric acid, tartaric acid and saccharose;
- c) at least one soluble alkali metal salt;
- d) magnesium citrate or tartrate, or a mixture thereof, and
- e) trace elements and vitamins.

26. (New) A water treatment composition for the long term improvement of the water quality of biological maintenance systems, comprising the following, based on the concentration in the maintenance system:

- a) 0.5 - 50 mg of at least one easily or sparingly soluble Al<sup>3+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup>, TiO<sup>2+</sup> or ZrO<sup>2+</sup> salt of an organic carboxylic acid;
- b) 0.5 - 100 mg of one or more organic compounds selected from citric acid, saccharose, tartaric acid, and a mixture thereof;
- c) 0.018 - 1.8 mmol of an alkali metal salt;
- d) 0.0018 - 0.36 mmol of a calcium or magnesium salt of an organic carboxylic acid, or a mixture thereof; and
- e) trace elements and vitamins.

27. (New) A water treatment composition for the long term improvement of the water quality of biological maintenance systems, comprising the following, based on the concentration in the maintenance system:

- a) 0.5 - 50 mg of at least one easily or sparingly soluble Al<sup>3+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup>, TiO<sup>2+</sup> or ZrO<sup>2+</sup> salt of an organic carboxylic acid;

- b) 0.5 - 100 mg of one or more organic compounds selected from citric acid, saccharose, tartaric acid, and a mixture thereof;
- c) 0.018 - 1.8 mmol of an alkali metal salt;
- d) 0.0018 - 0.36 mmol of a magnesium salt of an organic carboxylic acid, or a mixture thereof; and
- f) trace elements and vitamins.